PHIL WATSON
TOBY SWANSON
S. JOSEPH RUBENSTEIN
CLARENCE A. STEWART

January 3, 1979

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Mr. Gary Cornwell
Assistant Counsel
Select Committee on Assassinations
U.S. House of Representatives
3369 House Office Building
Annex to Washington, D.C. 20515

COPY

Dear Mr. Cornwell:

I appreciate the fact that you must be very busy trying to put together the final report for the public. However, I have a question which to the best of my knowledge has never been answered and it may or may not be of any importance.

I did write to former Governor Connally regarding any possible examination that may have been made of his Stetson hat after the shooting. As you know, he continued to hold the hat in his right hand long after the evidence indicates he had been hit. Perhaps an examination of the hat would indicate possible fragment holes and residue which could be traced to one of the bullets or fragments. If nothing is found, perhaps there would be markings from a closed fist or gripping to explain why the hat was not dropped at the time the wrist was shattered. In either event, it does not appear that the hat was among the personal items of Mr. Connally which went with Representative Gonzalez and apparently, Governor Connally does not know what happened to his hat since he requested that I contact you regarding this information.

Any light you could shed upon this question would be greatly appreciated. Also, any information that would be available as to when and how your final report and supporting evidence could be purchased, it would be greatly appreciated. A business reply envelope is enclosed for your convenience.

Very truly yours,

TOBY SWANSON

TS:cjv
Enclosure

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